

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please cancel Claims 1-9, 12-16, and 18 without prejudice to or disclaimer of their subject matter.

Please amend Claims 19 and 24, as follows. All claims in the application are being presented below in accordance with current U.S. Patent and Trademark Office requirements.

Claims 1 through 18 (Cancelled).

19. (Currently Amended) An image heating apparatus for heating an image formed on a recording material, comprising:

a heater, said heater including a metallic substrate, which is fixed so as not to rotate with respect to said apparatus;

a film moving in contact with said heater; and

a back-up roller for defining a nip with said heater via said film,

wherein said metallic substrate has a cylindrical shape, and

wherein said heater has a first insulating layer on an outer peripheral surface of said metallic substrate, a heat generating resistor on said first insulating layer and a second insulating layer on said heat generating resistor.

20. (Previously Presented) An image heating apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said heat generating resistor is formed on a part of said metallic substrate in a circumferential direction.

21. (Previously Presented) An image heating apparatus according to claim 20, wherein a part of said heat generating resistor is opposite to the nip.

22. (Previously Presented) An image heating apparatus according to claim 19, wherein said second insulating layer of said heater is in contact with said film.

23. (Previously Presented) An image heating apparatus according to claim 19, wherein a thickness of said metallic substrate is in a range of 0.5 mm to 2 mm.

24. (Currently Amended) A heater for use in an image heating apparatus, said heater being adapted to be fixed so as not to rotate with respect to the image heating apparatus that has a film moving in contact with said heater, and a back-up roller for defining a nip with said heater via the film, said heater comprising:

a metallic substrate ~~layer~~ having a cylindrical shape;

a first insulating layer on said metallic substrate;

a heat generating resistor on an outer peripheral surface of said first insulating layer; and

a second insulating layer on said heat generating resistor.

25. (Previously Presented) A heater according to claim 24, wherein said heat generating resistor is formed on a part of said metallic substrate in a circumferential direction.